

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 209088

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ORIGIN IO-03

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 5926 ACTION STATE BANGKOK CHIANG MAI
THE HAGUE

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 5926

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, TH, UN

SUBJ: UNFDAC CROP SUBSTITUTION PROJECT IN THAILAND

FOR IO/HDC

1. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY DND (WALDHEIM-NATURAL) THAT SERIOUS
PROBLEM HAS ARISEN IN CONNECTION UNFDAC'S CROP SUBSTITUTION
PROJECT IN THAILAND. SITUATION SEEMS BE AS FOLLOWS.

2. SUBSTANTIAL LAND HAS BEEN CLEARED FOR NEW CROP KIDNEY
BEANS FOR WHICH SOWING MUST TAKE PLACE WITHIN 10 DAYS. HOWEVER
THERE IS NO SEED STOCK. PROJECT PERSONNEL AUTHORIZED PEASANTS
TO CONSUME OLD STOCK SOME TIME AGO ON GROUND SEEDS NO LONGER
ADEQUATE AND NEEDED BE REPLACED BY NEW STOCK. IN APRIL 1974
PROGRAM MANAGER WILLIAMS PLACED ORDER WITH DUTCH FIRM FOR
NEW SEED AND ORDER WAS CONFIRMED TO BE DELIVERED MID-AUGUST
AT LATEST. DUTCH FIRM MADE ARRANGEMENTS OBTAIN SEED FROM
KENYA. FEW DAYS AGO UNFDAC PROJECT MANAGER MANN ADVISED
UN GENEVA HE HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT DUTCH FIRM COULD NOT
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PAGE 02 STATE 209088

SUPPLY SEED BECAUSE GOVERNMENT OF KENYA HAD EMBARGOED EXPORT

ON BASIS THERE IS SHORTAGE KIDNEY BEAN SEED IN KENYA. AT REQUEST DND, NETHERLANDS FOREIGN OFFICE HAS INTERVENED ON MINISTERIAL LEVEL WITH KENYAN AUTHORITIES TO OBTAIN RELEASE OF SEEDS BUT NO REPLY RECEIVED FROM GOK. SIMILARLY MARTENS HAS CABLED KENYAN AUTHORITIES BUT ALSO HAS NOT RECEIVED REPLY. ONLY REMAINING SOURCE FOR KIND AND QUANTITY (15 TONS) OF KIDNEY BEAN SEED NEEDED IN THAILAND IS DESSERT SEED COMPANY OF EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA. HOWEVER, IN ORDER PERMIT DISTRIBUTION AND SOWING WITHIN TEN DAYS, E.E., BY SEPTEMBER 30, SUCH SEED WOULD HAVE BE FLOWN TO CHIANG MAI.

3. DND HAS ASKED WHETHER THERE WOULD BE ANY POSSIBILITY USE U.S. MILITARY AIRCRAFT TO AIR-FREIGHT SEEDS TO CHIANG MAI. PERHAPS EMBASSY BANGKOK WOULD WISH ADVISE RE FOREGOING AND CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROBLEM.DALE UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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